CASE 4-31617B

## FILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Art Unit: 1635

LIAU ET AL.

APPLICATION NO: 10/619,344

FILED: JULY 14, 2003

FOR: INTRODUCTION OF BLOOD VESSEL FORMATION THROUGH

ADMINISTRATION OF POLYNUCLEOTIDES ENCODING

SPHINGOSINE KINASES

MS: Amendment

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

The Office Action of March 7, 2006 has a shortened statutory time set to expire on June 7, 2006. A two-month extension is hereby requested pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a).

Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis in the amount of \$ 450 for payment of the extension fee. An additional copy of this paper is here enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 CFR §1.17 which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis.

Respectfully submitted,

**Novartis** Corporate Intellectual Property One Health Plaza, Building 104 East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080

Date: July 28, 2006

hn T. Prince

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